

Is the only thing that makes a cold winter day worthwhile the thought of being inside and watching the big game? This is an exciting time of the year for football fans... it's the playoffs. Whether your team is in it or not, many people just enjoy getting together on weekends at a friend's house or sports bar to watch the games. While the you are gearing up for the Playoffs, remember to *Toss the Keys to a designated driver*.

What you need to know

For some watching the big game means drinking alcohol. Even if you just plan to drink a few, it can still be dangerous if you choose to drive afterward. Here are the facts you need to know:

- Last year, 21 people were arrested for Driving under the influence during Super Bowl enforcement
- Over 200 DUI saturation patrols are scheduled to be conducted statewide during the NFL playoff weeks and the Super Bowl.
- Penalties for DUI include loss of license and up to \$4,000 in court, treatment, DMV, and lawyer's fees. Subsequent DUI convictions include mandatory jail time and higher fines.

What you can do

To stay safe on the night of the big game, make the following safety tips part of your playbook:

If you are having friends over:

- Make sure all of your guests have a designated sober driver before kickoff
- Serve plenty of high protein foods like meat and cheese, or sandwiches and avoid the chips
- Provide non-alcoholic drink alternatives soft drinks, juice, and water
- Stop serving alcohol at the end of the third quarter of the game (just like NFL stadiums)

If you are watching at a sports bar or restaurant:

- Designate your sober driver before you leave the house or volunteer to be one yourself.
- Or: before you go out, program the numbers for local cab companies in your cell phone so if you find yourself in need of a ride, it is just one touch away
- Avoid drinking too much alcohol too fast. Pace yourself—eat enough food, take breaks and alternate with non-alcoholic drinks.
- Never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired.

Drive Safe. Arrive Alive DE.

This message is being sent to you the Office of Highway Safety, who asks you to drive safely at all times. For more information on this and other traffic safety programs, go to www.ohs.delaware.gov.